

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 /078 W

-----040765 021353Z /53

P R 021234Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9600

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU

SUBJECTZOUAU SUMMIT PROSPECTS

SUMMARY: SUMMIT DUE TO OPEN JULY 2 WITH ABOUT 20 CHIEFS OF STATE IN ATTENDANCE. MODERATES PREDOMINATE IN LIST OF TOP-LEVEL ATTENDEES, SUGGESTING THEY ARE LIKELY TO TAKE OFFENSEIVE IN INTRA-AFRICAN ISSUS AND MAINTAIN RELATIVELY NON-POLEMICAL TONE ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN QUESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AOU SUMMIT SCHEDULED TO OPEN LATER TODAY (JULY 2). INCLUDING BONGO AS HOST AND PRIMIN RAMGOOLAM OF MAURITIUS, WHO HAS EQUIVALENT, RANK THERE ARE 20 CHIEFS OF STATE HERE ALREADY FROM FOLLOWING COUNTIRES: CAMEROON, CHAD, CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, GABON, GABMIA, IVORY COAST, LIBERIA, MUARITANIA, MAURITIUS, MIGER, NIGERIAN, RWAEA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SUDAN, TOGO, UPPER VOLTA AND ZIARE. STILL FIRMLY EXPECTED IS KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA JULY 3 WITH OTHER APPARENTLY UP IN AIR.

2. NON-ATTENDANCE OF QADHAFI HAS SURPORISED SEVERAL LOCAL SOURCES, WHILE DISAPPOINTMENT HAS BEEN HEARD OVER ABSENCE OF KING HASS AND OF EMPEROR BOKASSA, BOTH OF

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WHOMHERE EXPECTED EARLIER BY THEIR DELEGATIONS. BIGGEST QUESTIONMARK HANGS OVER EVER-ELUSIVE AMIN, WHOSE DC-8 ARRIVED THIS MORNING TO DELIVER UGANDAN PERMREP TO UN BUT WHO HAS NOT HIMSELF BEEN HEARD FROM.

3. LIST OF ATTENDEES INCONSEQUENCE IS HEAVILY WEIGHTED IN FAVOR OF RELATIVE MODERATES AND PARTICULARY OF FRANCO-

PHONES, NEARLY ALL OF WHOM HAVE RALLIED TO THIS FIRST SUMMIT
IN CAPITAL OF EX-FRENCH TERRITORY. RIGHT-OF-CENTER BALANCE
LIKELY TO INFLUENCE BOTH TONE OF DEBATES AND NATURE OF
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED, WITH MODERATES EXPECTED TO FIND THEMSELVES
IN UNACCUSTOMED BUT SATISFYING POSITION OF BEING ON
OFFENSIVE RATHER THAN DEFENSIVE. CHADIANS HAVE ALREADY SHOWN
WAY FOR MODERATES WITH THEIR ATTACK IN CM ON LIBYA FOR
ALLEGED
BSION (LIBREVILLE 1646) AND COUNTRIES SUCH
AS ZAIRE AND SUDAN MAY BE TEMPTED TO FOLLOW SUIT AT
SUMMIT LEVEL IF THEY SENSE THAT THEY CAN COUNT ON STRONG
AND COHESIVE MODERATE BACKING.

4. OTHER CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES WILL INCLUDE SAHARA DISPUTE,
ON WHICH ALGERIANS HAVE SOUGHT TO MOUNT SEVERAL INDIRECT
ATTACKS IN CM: ETHIOPIA SOMALIA DISPUTE, WHICH WILL BE
FUELED BY KENYAN CHARGES OF SOMALI INCURSIONS (LIBREVILLE
1657); AND EXPECTED PUSH BY FRONT LINE STATES FOR OAU
RECOGNITION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT. NIGERIAN AND CHADIAN
CHALLENGES TO OAU RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UN SECURITY
COUNCIL SEATS LIKELY TO BE HANDLED IN CORRIDORS RATHER
THAN OPEN SESSION, WHILE ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN SUDANESE
SUGGESTION FOR TRANSFER OF OAU HEADQUARTERS MAY OR MAY
NOT SURFACE.

5. APART FROM PATRIOTIC FRONT QUESTION, SOUTHERN AFRICAN
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ISSUES WILL OFFER AREA OF GREATEST HARMONY FOR ASSEMBLED
DELEGATES. HERE TOO, HOWEVER, MODERATE PREDOMINANCE AT
CHIEF OF STATE LEVEL RAISES HOPES FOR RELATIVELY NON-
POLEMICAL RESOLUTIONS, LEAVING DOOR OPEN TO WESTERN
EFFORTS FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS IN NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE.

6. SINCE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS STILL IN SESSION MORNING
JULY 2 AND ALL DOCUMENTS FOR SUMMIT THUS NOT READY, LATTER
EXPECTED HOLD ONLY CEREMONIAL OPENING JULY 2 AND RESERVE
SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE UNTIL FOLLOWING DAY. IN CONSEQUENCE,
NEXT EMBASSY REPORT WILL NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL MONDAY, JULY
4, UNLESS THERE ARE URGENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERIM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Subject: ZOAU SUMMIT PROSPECTS SUMMARY: SUMMIT DUE TO OPEN JULY 2 WITH ABOUT 20 CHIEFS OF STATE IN ATTENDANCE.
MODERATES PREDOMINATE IN
TAGS: PFOR, OCON, XF, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/62dcf071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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